Drafter: Jaret Coles, 406-444-4022 PD 00360085\*

# INTRODUCED BY D. SKEES

# HOUSE RULES AMENDMENT NO. HR.0001.001.003 AMENDMENT REQUESTED BY C. KNUDSEN FOR THE (H) RULES PREPARED BY JARET COLES

# BY REQUEST OF THE (H) RULES

A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA ADOPTING THE HOUSE RULES.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the following House Rules be adopted:

# **RULES OF THE MONTANA**

# **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

### **CHAPTER 1**

### Administration

- **H10-10. House officers -- definitions.** (1) House officers include a Speaker, a Speaker pro tempore, majority and minority leaders, and majority and minority whips.
- (2) A majority of representatives voting elects the Speaker and Speaker pro tempore from the House membership. A majority of each caucus voting nominates House members to the remaining offices, and those nominees are considered to have been elected by a majority vote of the House.
  - (3) (a) "Majority leader" means the leader of the majority party, elected by the caucus.
  - (b) "Majority party" means the party with the most members, subject to subsection (4).
  - (c) "Minority leader" means the leader of the minority party, elected by the caucus.

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### **CHAPTER 7**

### Rules

**H70-10.** House rules -- amendment -- report timing. (1) The House may adopt, through a House resolution passed by a majority of its members, rules to govern its proceedings.

- (2) After adoption of the House rules, two-thirds of the representatives voting must vote in favor of the question to amend the rules.
- (3) The Speaker shall refer to the House Rules Committee all resolutions for House rules and joint rules.
- (4) The House Rules Committee shall report all resolutions for House rules and joint rules within 1 legislative day of referral.
- **H70-20. Tenure of rules.** Rules adopted by the House remain in effect until removed by House resolution or until a new House is elected and takes office.
- H70-30. Suspension of rules. (1) The Except as provided in subsection (2), the House may suspend a House rule on a motion approved by not less than two-thirds of the members voting.
  - (2) During a special session of the Legislature, the rules may be suspended by a majority vote.
- **H70-40.** Supplementary rules. Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure (2010) governs House proceedings in all cases not covered by House rules.
- H70-50. Interpreting rules -- appeal. The Speaker shall interpret all questions on House rules, subject to appeal by any 15 representatives to the House Rules Committee. Unless the delay would cause legislation to fail to meet a scheduled deadline, the House Rules Committee may consider and report on the appeal on the next legislative day. The decision of the House Rules Committee may be appealed to the House by any representative.
- **H70-60. Joint rules superseded.** A House rule, insofar as it relates to the internal proceedings of the House, supersedes a joint rule.

### **Appendix**

(1) Except as provided in subsections (2) through (4), legislation dealing with an enumerated subject must be referred to a standing committee as follows:

**Agriculture:** Agriculture; country of origin labeling for products; crops; crop insurance; farm subsidies;